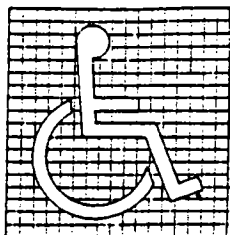




Uniform Federal Accessibility Standards (UFAS)

Definition



Uniform Federal Accessibility Standards (UFAS) present uniform specifications for the design, construction, and alteration of buildings so that physically handicapped persons will have ready access to them, and use of them, in accordance with the Architectural Barriers Act, 42 U.S.C. 4151-4157.

The UFAS were originally published in the Federal Register (FR) on August 7, 1984 (49 FR 31528). (Subsequent printings of the document include any corrections.)

Role of DOD

The Department of Defense (DOD) is one of several Federal agencies that establish and enforce standards for design, construction, and alteration of particular types of buildings and facilities. Specifically, the DOD prescribes distinct standards for DOD installations.

To ensure compliance with standards, Congress established the Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board (ATBCB) in Section 502 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. 792. The ATBCB is composed of members representing several Federal agencies, including the DOD.

Compliance

The ATBCB members determined that the uniform standards adopted by them would, as much as possible, not only comply with the guidelines of the ATBCB, but would also be consistent with the standards published by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) for general use. The ANSI standards for uniform accessibility are called ANSI A117.1-1986, American National Standard for Buildings and Facilities—Providing Accessibility and Usability for Physically Handicapped People.

In keeping with the objective of uniformity between Federal requirements and those commonly applied by state and local governments, the UFAS follow ANSI A117.1-1986 in format. The scope and technical requirements of UFAS meet or exceed the ANSI standards.

- ◆ Safety/Engineering Personnel
- ◆ Building Specifications
- ◆ Role of DOD

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